

Given the limited airwaves, Sinclair Broadcasting should not be allowed to foist their propaganda at the expense of the viewers. If they are allowed to do this, then we have truly reached a totalitarian state, in which the political view of the owners of stations will dictate political content - with outside opinions shut out. This is especially dangerous, given Michael Powell's championing of media consolidation.

In fact, Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.